IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

§ *In re* Application of: Confirmation No.: 5010 Philip J. Scarpace and § Gang Li Examiner: Salvoza, M. Franco G. Serial No. 10/822,613

Group Art Unit: 1648 Filed: April 12, 2004

Atty. Dkt. No.: 36689.26 For: rAAV VECTOR-BASED PRO-OPIOMELANOCORTIN

COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS

OF USE

1. AMENDMENT; 2. RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICIAL ACTION DATED MAY 22, 2006 3. REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and consider the accompanying amendment and response to the Final Official Action ("Final Action") which is timely submitted. Applicants believe that the present materials place the claims in condition for allowance, and re-examination and reconsideration is respectfully requested on this basis. A Petition for an Extension of Time (EOT) of two months up to and including October 23, 2006 (October 22, 2006 being a Sunday), which is within the statutory period for reply, is included to render the amendment, response, and RCE timely submitted.

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Applicants believe that the present materials place the claims in condition for allowance, and re-examination and reconsideration is respectfully requested on this basis. Should any additional fees be deemed necessary for any reason in connection with the present submission, including the present amendment, EOT and RCE fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any necessary amounts from Deposit Account No. 08-1394, Order No. 36689.26.

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